

WA STATE PERFORMANCE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Water Quality Program Status Report For January 1 – June 30, 2018

This report reflects the status of work conducted by Ecology's Water Quality Program and EPA to meet the water quality commitments in the 2017-2019 Performance Partnership Agreement. The numbering system below corresponds to the numbering system in Chapter 9 of the Agreement titled Water Quality Program. Some of the Ecology commitments in this Agreement serve as the work plan for the Performance Partnership Grant (PPG) awarded to Ecology. Please direct questions and comments concerning this report to Eli Levitt at the Department of Ecology. Phone: (360) 407-6499; Email: eli.levitt@ecy.wa.gov

ACTIVITY	CONTACTS	PPA #	ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	STATUS
1. NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION CONTROL	EPA: Michelle Wilcox Ecology: Helen Bresler	1A	Ecology will implement the Ecology actions identified in the 2015 Water Quality Management Plan to Control Nonpoint Source Pollution (also known as the Washington State Nonpoint Plan), depending on available funds. Ecology will submit an annual end-of-year report by April 1 of each calendar year and the EPA will review and provide a satisfactory progress determination to Ecology at or before awarding the CWA 319 grant. EPA will use these reports as the basis for determining continued eligibility for future CWA Section 319 grants.	Ecology is implementing the plan. We submitted the annual progress report May 18, 2018. We provided a draft of the report to EPA in March.
		1B	Ecology and EPA will submit and award the CWA Section 319 grant on a biennial basis rather than an annual basis. For the years in which Ecology applies for the grant, Ecology will submit a grant proposal no later than March 31 and EPA will process the grant and provide funding no later than July 1 of that same year.	Ecology and EPA are following this procedure. Ecology's CWA 319 biennial award application for SFY 18/19 was initiated on 4/7/17 and submitted to EPA RG10 on 6/15/17. It was approved by EPA on 8/8/17. The delay was caused by confusion concerning the federal 319 allocation due to a lack of a federal budget and updated Continuing Resolutions (CRs). EPA PO involvement was constant throughout the development. EPA allotment received 5/24/17; Draft to EPA PO 6/2/17; and EPA edits received 6/7/17.
		1C	Ecology will submit semi-annual CWA Section 319 grant progress reports by August 31 and March 1 of each year which cover the previous half of the state fiscal year.	Reports from individuals supported by 319 funds for the period January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018 have been solicited with a due date of July 27 th so that they may be uploaded into GRTS in mid-August 2018.
		1D	Ecology and the EPA will continue to participate on Forest Practices Board committees and workgroups, particularly the Timber, Fish and Wildlife Policy Committee and the Cooperative Monitoring, Evaluation and Research Committee. Ecology and the EPA will continue to work with Washington State Department of	Ecology continues to fulfill its responsibilities for this activity.

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			Natural Resources and other agencies to ensure forest practices rules are implemented to comply with the habitat conservation plan and with state water quality standards and the Clean Water Act.	
		1E	Ecology will enter the data for all 319 projects from 2016, including load reduction estimates as applicable into the Grants Reporting and Tracking System. Mandatory yearly load reduction data is due February 15th each year. Ecology will enter all other data for funded projects will be entered no later than April 1st, each year. (EPA Program Activity Measure (PAM) WQ-9)	Ecology reported 2017 load reductions in February 2018. Due to the delayed capital budget, new project data will be entered once agreements are developed.
		1F	Ecology will report in the annual Nonpoint Source report the number of watershed-based plans, supported under the State Nonpoint Source Management Program from the beginning of each state fiscal year, that have been substantially implemented. Ecology will provide water miles and acres covered.	Ecology included this information in the 2018 annual report.
		1G	Ecology will continue to work with EPA to complete at least two success stories per year. The stories will show progress toward, or achievement of, water quality standards under EPA PAM WQ-10 guidance, as a result of Nonpoint Source (NPS) implementation measures. Ecology will post these success measures on their website so they can keep them up to date.	Ecology worked with EPA and their contractor to produce success stories. Several watersheds within Kitsap county were identified as potential success stories. Ecology will work with EPA (and contractor) to complete at least two success stories during the second half of 2018.
		1H	Ecology will coordinate with EPA on the implementation of the Washington State Nonpoint Plan. Key areas of focus include work on the voluntary Clean Water Guidance for Agriculture (guidance on best management practices), support for the nonpoint compliance work of inspectors and other regional staff (complaint response, priority watershed clean-up projects and enforcement actions), and refinement of internal guidance on how we conduct nonpoint compliance work to improve consistency between regions. This work is funded by a combination of grants from EPA including Section 319 and NEP.	Ecology has completed the nonpoint compliance desk manual and continues to work on producing the Clean Water Guidance for Agriculture.
		1I	EPA will actively support Ecology as it prepares and issues its nonpoint strategy. EPA will make sure that their strategies in other areas such as the NEP program do not conflict with the nonpoint efforts and Nonpoint Plan for Washington	EPA should continue efforts to connect the NEP program and 319 work internally. Ecology is currently working to align the NEP work with addressing dissolved oxygen 303(d) listings in Puget Sound.
		1J	Ecology and EPA will work together toward final approval of Washington's Coastal Nonpoint Source Control Program (CZARA).	Ecology met with EPA and NOAA to start review program and update the federal approval decision rational document.
		1K	Ecology will engage in EPA led NEP or Puget Sound Action plan efforts that interface with the State's Nonpoint Strategy and Nonpoint Plan.	We are actively working with the Shellfish and Stormwater Implementation Workgroups to ensure

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				consistency with our 319 work. Ecology is helping move the Marine Water Quality Initiative work forward.
		1L	The EPA will provide technical expertise to Ecology's process to develop voluntary Clean Water Guidance for Agriculture.	EPA has provided a staff person to participate in this process.
2. POINT SOURCE POLLUTION CONTROL	Pretreatment EPA: Michael Le Ecology: Dave Knight	2A	Ecology will conduct an audit of each delegated pretreatment program at least every five years and a pretreatment compliance inspection (PCI) or audit of each pretreatment Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) at least every two years. If Ecology is unable to complete the required audits and inspections, then Ecology must provide a plan to EPA addressing issues preventing completion of the requirements. The plan will outline proactive steps and a schedule Ecology will follow the schedule to meet audit and inspection targets. Ecology must submit the plan by the end of each federal fiscal year for which Ecology has not fully met the requirements by October 31st with the report described in sections 2C and 2D.	During the period January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018 Ecology's focus was both in new PCI's and continuing follow-up on previously conducted PCI's and Audits of local programs. During the coming quarter the focus will be on assuring that the PCI's and Audit commitments for the year have been accomplished and are documented in Ecology's PARIS database system.
		2B	Ecology will forward copies of pretreatment compliance inspection and pretreatment audit reports (EPA Form 3560-3) for Pretreatment POTW as soon as they are completed to: Michael Le Regional Pretreatment Coordinator EPA Region 10, NPDES Permits Unit (OW-130) 1200 Sixth Avenue Seattle, WA 98101 Ecology may instead fax them to his attention at (206) 553-1280, or email a scanned copy of each report to Le.Michael@epa.gov .	Ecology regions continue to include a CC: copy of PCI's and Audits to Mr. Lee as well as ensuring that a copy is posted in our PARIS database system. This practice will continue to assure transparency and that our commitments are met.
		2C	Ecology will evaluate compliance status of all approved programs for non-compliance and report the facility names and permit numbers of POTWs with approved pretreatment programs in non-compliance to the Region 10 Pretreatment Coordinator by October 31 each year. The report will cover the previous federal fiscal year.	This annual commitment will be part of the report for the coming year and we are on track to meet this deadline (October 31, 2018).
		2D	Ecology will report the facility names and permit numbers of Significant Industrial Users (SIUs) including Categorical Industrial Users discharging to POTWs without approved pretreatment programs; and the SIUs of that universe that have been determined to be in significant noncompliance to the Region 10 Pretreatment Coordinator by October 31 each year. The report will cover the previous federal fiscal year.	The focus between now and when this report is due will be to ensure that the PARIS continues to provide EPA and the public access to all of the data needed for this report. Ultimately, we would like to have the functionality to allow EPA to generate such a report whenever desired.

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	Compliance and Enforcement EPA: Robert Grandinetti; Ecology: Donna Smith	2E	Ecology will enter all data required under items 2A – 2D in to Ecology’s Permit and Reporting Information System (PARIS). Ecology will continue to work with the EPA to ensure the upload of pretreatment data from PARIS to ICIS-NPDES. Any errors that occur are to be resolved in a timely manner.	The data entry process is continuous but a final report will be produced after the end of the federal fiscal year and provided by October 31, 2018 (as described in commitment 2C)
		2F	On at least a quarterly basis, the EPA and Ecology program managers will communicate to provide updates and discuss inspection and enforcement targeting. As needed, additional topics will include priorities and goals, performance expectations, enforcement program improvements, roles and responsibilities, work sharing, and the avoidance of duplication of efforts.	Program managers and EPA are not currently holding regularly scheduled quarterly meetings.
		2G	Ecology will continue its inspection program of major and minor facilities. Ecology will implement the Clean Water Compliance Monitoring Strategy (CMS) to ensure adequate coverage of regulated entities. The CWA CMS is part of an ongoing compliance monitoring strategy developed by the EPA to allow for more flexible use of resources for States in performing inspections. Ecology will use the Region 10 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Compliance Monitoring spreadsheet for its annual CMS plan/report to be submitted to EPA by December 31 of each year for the previous state fiscal year. This CMS submittal is both a planning document for activities planned for the upcoming year and a reporting document to report on what occurred the previous state fiscal year. EPA contact: Robert Grandinetti, email at grandinetti.robert@epa.gov . Ecology will ensure that each inspection report has a Quality Assurance review. This review could be done by a peer or a supervisor.	With the PARIS 3.0 roll out, and challenges with some reports, Ecology was not able to complete the inspection report by the December 31 deadline. Ecology submitted the report on February 22, 2018. We continue to complete quality assurance reviews of inspection reports.
		2H	Ecology will continue to work with the EPA to ensure the upload of data from PARIS to ICIS-NPDES. Any errors that occur are to be resolved in a timely manner.	This work is ongoing with the roll out of PARIS 3.0. Also, Ecology and EPA are holding regularly scheduled conference calls on this topic, as it relates to the EPA priority to decrease the facilities that are designated as in Significant Non Compliance (SNC).
		2I	Ecology will provide an annual report of their NPDES “traditional” non-major facilities to EPA by December 31 of each calendar year. EPA sends a notice to Ecology each year requesting that they submit an Annual Non-Compliance Report for their “traditional” non-major facilities for the previous calendar year (i.e., if the report is due by December 31, 2013, it is for calendar year 2012 data). Points of contact for Ecology are Donna Smith and Josh Klimek (acting PARIS business	EPA has discontinued its ANCR reporting requirement as of October 2017 due to electronic reporting.

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			lead).	
		2J	Ecology will provide instructions and training, if desired, to Washington Department of Agriculture so that the Washington Department of Agriculture can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to enter all information on permitted facilities into PARIS and; • Continue to enter all environmental compliance information into PARIS, permitted or not (excluding routine inspection information). 	Ecology has not been contacted to provide training to Department of Agriculture.
		2K	Ecology will continue to participate in the State Review Framework (SRF). The next SRF process is likely to occur in 2021.	There is no new information to report.
		2L	As part of the SRF, Ecology will participate in annual data verification of Ecology data in ICIS-NPDES. Each fall the EPA Headquarters will post the specific set of data verification metrics on the database, "Enforcement and Compliance History Online" (ECHO). Ecology will ensure that any necessary data corrections are made in the program data systems. After verified data are frozen, the EPA will develop a condensed annual Data Metric Analysis by September 30, 2018, for federal fiscal year 2017 data. These are used by the EPA to assess performance and trends in performance and to discuss any issues with Ecology.	We are actively working with EPA to complete this activity.
		2M	Rob Grandinetti will serve as an <i>ex officio</i> member of the Water Quality Program's Enforcement Workgroup, which meets quarterly.	Rob Grandinetti is participating in the Enforcement Workgroup.
	Permits EPA: Karen Burgess Ecology: Vince McGowan	2N	Ecology will maintain the overall NPDES facility backlog to no greater than 20 percent during this PPA period. Ecology will submit a draft "NPDES permitting plan" to the EPA by June 1 of each calendar year that covers the upcoming state fiscal year. The plan will list the permits that Ecology intends to work on and will note which of them designated "high priority." are Ecology will identify the number of "high priority" permits to issue during each federal fiscal year. Ecology will report to the EPA once per quarter on issuance of high priority permits and the NPDES backlog rate (PAMS WQ-18 and WQ-29). The data is available electronically through the PARIS/ICIS database link. Ecology will provide the following documents as specified: 1. Permit issuance plans (due June 1 for each state fiscal year; 2. Priority Permits Status (due quarterly and end of federal fiscal Sept. 30); and, 3. Permit backlog (should be due March and Sept., semi-annual federal fiscal year). Ecology will consider developing a backlog report available through PARIS.	Ecology continues to work with EPA on determining Priority Permit commitments for each fiscal year. We identified 14 permits in fall of 2017 for the fiscal year. A communication problem between the EPA's Permit Management Oversight System and PARIS was found. WQP is working with EPA to resolve this issue. Ecology's NPDES backlog from July – December 2017 is approximately 38%.

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		2O	The EPA will reduce the NPDES backlog of federal and tribal permits to 30 percent by June 2019. The EPA will share its NPDES permitting plan with Ecology by October 1 of each calendar year which covers the upcoming federal fiscal year. The plan will list the permits EPA intends to work on and will note which permits are designated “high priority,” such as permits in areas covered by approved TMDLs or in Puget Sound.	EPA item.
		2P	The EPA will attempt to review at least one Ecology permit per month, on average, subject to availability and the EPA’s draft permit review selection process. The EPA reviews permits programmatically for consistency with state and federal rules and policies. The EPA reviews major permits, with emphasis on larger facilities and dischargers with potential to significantly impact the environment. The EPA also reviews permits as requested by Ecology. When possible, the EPA’s review rotates among Ecology’s regions. The EPA will not hold NPDES permits issued by Ecology to a higher standard than required by the CWA and federal regulations.	EPA item.
		2Q	Ecology will improve permit and fact sheet shells and other tools through its Permit Workgroup. The EPA is a member of the Permit Workgroup and has the opportunity to comment on the changes Ecology proposes to the permitting process.	PWG continues to refine permitting guidance (Permit Writer’s Manual), permit shells and fact sheet shells via the process outlined in the workgroup’s charter. Draft combined NPDES/reclaimed water permit & fact sheet shells are also currently in development.
		2R	Ecology will report to the EPA the status and completion of PQR action items semi-annually mid- and end-federal fiscal year (October and March) of each year until actions items are complete.	Ecology has continued working with EPA on the Category 1 items listed in the PQR. We provide updates to the EPA’s PWG representative on a quarterly basis. To date, the policy on reauthorizations has been revised and regions are aware of the need to keep all permit records in PARIS (including completed applications). Ecology has no control over when permittees submit their application and supporting data. Permits require submittal of these documents by a certain date. Late submittals result in a permit violation. Our program’s current guidance and fact sheet shells do indicate the level of documentation necessary for effluent development. It was suggested that permits go through peer review to help ensure adequate documentation is being provided and that

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				WQBELs include both long and short term parameters. PDS is working with WQS to develop a plan for reducing nutrients in discharges as part of the Puget Sound Nutrient Source Reduction Project. The Pretreatment Workgroup has been implementing the streamlining rule.
		2S	Ecology and the EPA will update Washington's NPDES permit program Memorandum of Agreement in conjunction with the PQR process. The target date for completion of the revised MOA is September 30, 2017.	EPA HQ legal review in addition to transitions in leadership at EPA R10 and EFSEC partially delayed signing of MOA. On 2/26/18 the ECY/EFSEC MOA was signed by Ecology and EFSEC. The EPA MOA is ready for signature; however, the new R10 administrator needs to be briefed before signature. Final signatures are anticipated by March 30, 2018.
		2T	The EPA will continue to work on its federal facility permit backlog.	EPA item.
		2U	Compliance and permitting representatives from both the EPA and Ecology will meet on an annual basis for an NPDES planning session consistent with EPA's Clean Water Action Plan. This meeting will be separate from the water quality managers' meeting to discuss overall progress under the PPA (see item 8C). Participants will discuss NPDES goals, priorities, performance expectations, areas for program improvements as identified during program reviews, inspection and enforcement targets, roles and responsibilities, work sharing and the avoidance of duplicating efforts. The annual review will take place by October 31 and will be coordinated by EPA's NPDES Compliance Unit. The meeting may include participants from other EPA and/or Ecology programs as necessary to facilitate cross-program coordination and communication. Additional meetings may be needed to follow up on specific priorities, activities, and/or issues. Priorities, action items, and performance measures identified through this planning process may be reflected in future PPAs as appropriate.	Fall 2017 meeting with EPA held at Ecology's HQ in Lacey, WA. The 2018 meeting will be scheduled prior to 10/31.
3. WATER CLEANUP PLANS (TMDLs) AND STANDARDS	Water Cleanup Plans (TMDLs)	3A	Ecology will report and track TMDLs completed and straight to implementation efforts that result in clean water, as well as those TMDLs and TMDL alternatives Ecology has identified as long-term priorities for EPA's measure WQ-27.	Ecology is tracking progress and on these issues and will report to EPA as required.
	EPA: Laurie Mann Ecology:	3B	Ecology and the EPA will meet at least once per year to conduct workload planning and evaluation for the development and implementation of TMDLs. Ecology will provide the EPA with a list of the TMDLs that need to be completed for the upcoming year. Ecology will also prepare an annual TMDL progress	Ecology and EPA generally hold the annual meeting in December of each year. Ecology's TMDL Accountability Team tracks TMDL progress and

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	Melissa Gildersleeve		<p>reports for the previous year. The goal is to maintain an average pace of 53 TMDLs per year.</p> <p>The EPA will provide Ecology with information on TMDLs for federal facilities and tribal lands for the purposes of ongoing coordination. At this meeting, EPA will also provide Ecology with updates on key interpretations that change how the EPA has been reviewing and commenting on TMDLS. The goal is to keep Ecology abreast of changes at the EPA in the TMDL program and how TMDL submittals should be reviewed. Ecology will also report on the pace to produce TMDLs. The EPA and Ecology will coordinate on any TMDLs the EPA proposes to develop before the EPA begins work. At least twice per year, the EPA will give Ecology regular updates on their review and approval of TMDLs. The review will include information on each TMDL in process – both current status and expected next steps.</p>	<p>should be able to project TMDLs expected to be completed within the next year.</p>
		3C	<p>Ecology will report on the management measures in the Spokane River PCB comprehensive plan. The Comprehensive Plan contains milestones, timelines, effectiveness metrics, and responsibilities for control actions. Ecology will continue to monitor the progress of Task Force as it implements the plan, providing recommendations and periodic status reports.</p> <p>Ecology has been a signatory to the Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force (Task Force) since 2012, serving as a resource to the Task Force, by providing professional, technical, and financial support. Ecology will continue this role, which strategically addresses toxics issues, and maximizes Ecology’s ability to achieve water quality standards in the Spokane River. The Task Force completed its Comprehensive Plan (the “Comprehensive Plan to Reduce PCBs in the Spokane River”) on November 29, 2016. That plan describes 28 27 categories of control actions which, when implemented, will prevent, control, remove, or reduce toxic pollution. Ecology will continue to support the Task Force as it implements the plan’s control actions, which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining current activities (wastewater treatment, known contaminated sites remediation, stormwater controls, low impact development, street sweeping, and purchasing standards) • Improving existing activities (green chemistry initiatives, product testing, 	<p>The Task Force received \$310,000 from the Washington State Legislature to continue finding and reducing sources of PCBs in the Spokane River watershed. The Task Force will use the funding to carry out the following actions from their Comprehensive Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of sources upstream of Kaiser • Perform a PCB mass balance from Plantes Ferry to Nine Mile • Product testing • Green Chemistry Advancement • Develop outreach materials • Conduct watershed-wide PMF analysis • Limnotech technical support • ACE administration <p>Ecology and the Task Force Administrative and Contracting Entity (ACE) finalized a contract for the legislative funding. By June 30, 2018 \$155,000 of the</p>

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			<p>waste disposal assistance, rulemaking to support toxics reduction, compliance activities, and emerging stormwater treatment technologies)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiating new actions (identifying sources of contaminated groundwater, and preparing guidance for building demolition and renovation) 	<p>funding has been used to complete the following work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A plan to identify PCB groundwater sources upgradient of Kaiser QAPP for a PCB mass balance study from Plantes Ferry to Nine Mile Green Chemistry Advancement (white paper on PCBs in pigments) Administration and technical assistance <p>Task Force workgroups have developed and started implementing tasks such as, rulemaking to support toxics reduction, outreach and education.</p>
		3D	Where Washington is engaged in a TMDL that crosses jurisdictions, the EPA will provide the leadership for bringing those issues to resolution.	EPA item.
		3E	The EPA will provide quarterly updates to Ecology on the status of the Pend Oreille Temperature TMDL. The EPA will also coordinate that status update with any Water Quality Standards changes that might impact the submitted TMDL.	EPA Item.
		3F	As a complementary effort to the Lower Duwamish Waterway Source Control Strategy, Ecology and EPA will continue to develop modelling tools to support a Pollutant Loading Assessment of toxics in the Green-Duwamish watershed, including the Lower Duwamish Waterway.	Ecology and EPA continue to work cooperatively to develop modelling tools. Technical Advisory Committee Meeting #11 occurred June 6, 2018.
		3G	Ecology will engage in a focused public education and outreach effort to inform the public about the water quality problems posed by over-enrichment of nutrients in Puget Sound. The effort will take advantage of Ecology's studies and modeling efforts and use multiple communication tools to distribute messages at regular intervals to break up the information into manageable chunks. The communication effort will begin July 2017 with a workshop, open to the public, called the Puget Sound Nutrient Dialogue. The Dialogue will bring together subject matter experts from different areas of Puget Sound recovery efforts that overlap with the nutrient issue, and engage the audience with discussions and Q&A regarding the state of the science relative to their areas of technical expertise. It is a starting place to build on for future discussions and public engagement.	<p>Ecology hosted the Nutrient Dialogue in 2017. The Dialogue was well-attended. Ecology continues its work to inform policymakers, stakeholders, and the general public about how nutrients affect Puget Sound.</p> <p>Ecology has also been working with stakeholders, including representatives of local governments that operate wastewater treatment plants, as it begins work on the nutrient source reduction plan.</p> <p>This effort is coordinating with the PSP Action Agenda Marine Water Quality initiative process and an effort to align that process with our need to address 303(d)</p>

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			Ecology will engage with stakeholders in the initial scoping phase of this project to determine how to proceed with the collaborative development of the nutrient source reduction plan.	listings for Puget Sound.
	Water Quality Standards EPA – Lindsay Guzzo Ecology – Melissa Gildersleeve	3H	Ecology will start rulemaking to revise the recreational use criteria in the surface water quality standards by September 2017. The public announcement will be a pre-proposal announcement (CR-101) as required by the Washington State Administrative Procedures Act (APA). Ecology can then begin stakeholder discussions, public information sessions, and discussions with the EPA Region 10 staff. Based on the pre-proposal announcement, Ecology plans to propose a rule by September 2018 in accordance with the CR-102 process of the APA which then requires a final rule within 180 days. Rule submittal to the EPA is expected to be no later than April 2019.	WQP staff assembled a technical team of stakeholders and EPA staff and held three workshops in February and March. The technical team assisted Ecology with rulemaking considerations, including a review of criteria options and assessing what implementation tools and guidance are necessary to transition to new indicator criteria. Ecology also held a variety of internal meetings with staff to discuss impacts the new criteria will have on CWA programs (TMDLs, NPDES, etc.) We then conducted a public webinar on June 14 to present preliminary decisions on the bacteria criteria and the draft rule implementation. The rule proposal, Ecology also held a State Environmental Protection Act scoping period in May to gather comments on what should be included in an EIS for this rule.
		3I	Ecology will make progress on developing a water quality standards guidance manual. This manual is intended to instruct agency staff working on CWA programs by providing, a documentation of the proper application of the WQ Standards within these programs including documentation of institutional knowledge, impact of legal decisions, and interpretation of commonly applied water quality standards language.	Staff have continue to develop guidance materials on the proper application of WQ Standards. Guidance on the development and application marine D.O. criteria was completed in May. Guidance and presentation materials are being developed for the application of variance, UAA, and site-specific criteria. Staff continue to work with MadCap Flare software which will be used for an easy access platform for the public to find guidance materials.
		3J	Ecology will update the five-year water quality standards development plan. Ecology will work with the EPA to review the prioritization and dates of rule development timelines, including the appropriate placement in our work plan for updates to dissolved oxygen and fine sediment criteria, as appropriate.	On June 20, Ecology and EPA R10 and EPA HQ had a conference call to discuss the progress of this activity. EPA had concerns that this item was insufficient to meet the state's triennial review requirements. Ecology and EPA agreed that the update to the five-year plan will not include a public hearing and will be conducted according to the triennial review process.

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				This public process will commence in the month following the adoption of the recreational use criteria expected in January 2019 or earlier. Legal actions at EPA Region 10 are expected to prescribe immediate priorities and Ecology expects that process to be complete prior to the triennial review process.
		3K	EPA's Nutrient Scientific Technical Exchange Partnership & Support (N-STEPS) program provides state with technical assistance for development of numeric criteria for nutrient criteria, including development of numeric translators that can be used in the near term to implement state narrative water quality criteria. With support from the N-STEPS program, Ecology will help develop stressor-response relationships using several datasets with the intent to translate WA State's narrative criteria to acceptable ranges of nutrient concentrations (TN and TP) protective of freshwater aquatic life uses in Washington streams. Ecology will pull together QA/QC data, develop conceptual models, and participate in reviewing technical analyses and technical reports summarizing the findings of the analyses expected in 2017. Based on the results of the analyses, Ecology will consider these analyses in future revisions to the Water Quality Assessment 303(d) listing methodologies and other state narrative interpretation methods for streams as needed.	TetraTech staff completed the report with technical assistance from Ecology staff. In May Ecology presented the results of this N-STEPS project to the Western States Nutrient Workshop in San Francisco.
		3L	The EPA will work with the Services on Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultation for the compliance schedule provision WAC 173-201A-510(4)(a)(i) submitted by Ecology on August 1, 2016. The EPA will give updates to Ecology on the progress made in real time.	EPA item.
		3M	Ecology will provide technical assistance to others in the development of use attainability analyses, variances, and other tools where a change in a standard appears appropriate. Ecology and the EPA will work together throughout the development of such water quality standard changes. The EPA will provide a timely response to use attainability analyses, variance submittals and other submittals from Ecology that require the EPA approval or review.	Ecology has worked with the Spokane River Task Force, EPA R10, and EPA HQ to provide the most recent information on the implementation of variances. This information will inform statewide application of the variance tools in the WQ Standards. Ecology continued to work with Chelan PUD on the development of a UAA. This process will inform the application of the UAA tool for other regulated entities interested in this implementation tool. Ecology continues to reach out to EPA on the proper use of these tools. EPA has provided input to Ecology in these

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				circumstances.
		3N	The EPA will take the lead in coordinating a process to resolve conflicts created when different standards are adopted for shared waters (tribal and state jurisdictional boundaries).	EPA item.
		3O	The EPA will provide information to Ecology on tribal water quality standards in a timely manner, and will work with the tribes to encourage outreach to state governments and the state's non-tribal citizens.	EPA item.
		3P	Ecology and the EPA will continue to work together on addressing priority nutrient problems to reduce current loadings of nitrogen and phosphorus to surface waters through existing programs and state priorities.	Ecology is coordinating with EPA to address nutrient issues in the following venues: Agriculture BMP Guidance, addressing dissolved oxygen listings in Puget Sound, efforts to address nutrients related to the Marine Water Quality Initiative/Puget Sound Action Agenda/NEP Puget Sound Implementation Strategy.
		3Q	EPA and Ecology will regularly share information and meet on an as needed basis, at least once a year, to discuss the status of ongoing and future water quality standard projects.	EPA and Ecology have met several times in this period (in-person & conf. calls) to discuss an array of WQ Standards topics. EPA requested that Ecology attend discussions with EPA and Oregon on the challenging WQ standards development and implementation issues. WQ Program staff work on two subgroup topics; narrative criteria development, and natural condition criteria.
	Water Quality Assessments EPA – Jill Fullagar Ecology – Melissa Gildersleeve	3R	Ecology will submit the next Water Quality Assessment in 2018, which will be an assessment of all state fresh and marine waters where we are able to obtain readily available data. Ecology has undertaken an extensive project to automate the technical assessment of data for each listing cycle, which should improve the ability to meet Clean Water Act timelines for submitting an integrated report. Given the massive amount of data available in Washington, Ecology's past practice of manually organizing and assessing data has been resource intensive and lead to delays in meeting EPA timelines.	The submittal of the next Water Quality Assessment has been delayed as we work to update Washington's listing methodology (WQP Policy 1-11) before beginning assessment of data. The delay was due in part to a request by tribes for additional time to review a pre-public draft as well as challenges with developing an assessment methodology using fish tissue to determine if uses associated with the new human health criteria are being met. A public review of WQP Policy 1-11 revisions was completed in April 2018. Staff are finalizing the listing policy and developing a response to comments, expected to be completed late summer 2018. Technical review of data will then begin in Fall 2018 using the automation tools that have been

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				developed for the parameter-specific assessment modules.
		3S	Ecology will continue to work with the EPA to ensure Washington's Watershed Assessment Tracking (WATS) System database has fields equivalent to the data elements defined in EPA's Assessment Database. Ecology will further work with the EPA to ensure that baseline data is uploaded and the requirement for electronic Integrated Report submittals via ATTAINS is met. This will improve the ability to provide consistent reporting at the national level. (PAM WQ-7, EPA National Water Program federal fiscal year 2009 Guidance)	Ecology staff attended the regional meeting in Idaho for continued training on ATTAINS. Hiring for a new Assessment database administer is in process. This position will be working to align Ecology WATS with EPA ATTAINS. WQP staff are in the process of entering base dataset (most recently approved WQ Assessment)
		3T	Ecology will continue to track water quality monitoring data in its Environmental Information Management (EIM) database for use in the periodic assessment of water bodies for the Integrated Report.	Ecology conducted a second call-for-data in March 2018 to gather readily available credible data from the public that has been collected for the past 10 years (from Jan. 1, 2008 – Dec. 31, 2017). This will allow us to assess the most currently available data up through 2017. The program data coordinator inputted all datasets that were received by June 2018.
		3U	Ecology will tally and justify the number of water bodies / impairments that have moved from Water Quality Assessment Categories 4 or 5 (as listed in the next approved Washington State Water Quality Assessment) to Categories 1 through 3 after approval is received by EPA on the new Assessment submittal. (PAMs SP-10 and SP-11)	This task cannot be done until Ecology completes the next Water Quality Assessment and submits the results to EPA for review and approval. Given that assessment of data will not start until Fall 2018 and this step is very time and resource intensive, we cannot provide a specific date for submittal of the next Water Quality Assessment to EPA. However, we have dedicated staff resources that will be working on assessment of data, which will then be followed by internal and external review and tribal consultation prior to submitting the final results to EPA.
		3V	To support the EPA's new national Trash Free Waters Initiative ^{35F} (), EPA (Margaret McCauley) and Ecology (Karen Dinicola) agree to explore opportunities within existing programs (e.g., MS4 and NEP Stormwater) to reduce and remove the volume of trash entering the State's waterways.	Ongoing (illicit discharge detection and elimination requirements in the municipal stormwater permits are being revised as part of permit reissuance).
	4. STORMWATER (including CSOs and SSOs)	4A	Ecology will continue to manage the Phase I and Phase II stormwater permit program. This includes construction, industrial and municipal stormwater permits.	Ongoing.
		4B	Ecology will continue to implement Ecology's combined sewer overflow (CSO)	Ongoing.

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	SSOs) EPA – Robert Grandinetti, Stacey Erickson, Misha Vakoc Ecology – Rachel McCrea, Vince McGowan (Stormwater)		<p>reduction regulation in all NPDES permits issued to facilities that operate a combined sewer system (CSS). Per Ecology’s regulation, such permittees have approved CSO Reduction Plans in place. NPDES permits for CSS facilities include requirements for the submission of Annual CSO Reports and a CSO Reduction Plan Amendment at the end of each permit cycle.</p> <p>Permits may also include a compliance schedule for the implementation of projects during the permit cycle. To comply with EPA’s 1994 CSO Control Policy, Ecology will incorporate into NPDES permits the requirements to implement the Nine Minimum Controls (NMC), and Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) elements including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public participation in the planning process. • No feasible alternatives analysis for permits with authorized bypass language where appropriate. • Post construction compliance monitoring as appropriate. <p>The EPA will recognize the similarities, differences and seniority of Ecology’s combined sewer overflow (CSO) reduction regulation (issue date 1/27/87) as compared to EPA’s 1994 CSO Control Policy (codified in the Wet Weather Water Quality Act of 2000). EPA and Ecology will work together to resolve differences so that permittees can securely implement CSO reduction projects to reach the level of control. EPA will perform some inspections of the CSO facilities in Washington.</p>	
		4C	Ecology will assure that all new NPDES permits include language prohibiting sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) and requiring reporting if such SSOs occur.	Ongoing. This language is included in template language for domestic wastewater permits.
		4D	Ecology MS4 permit managers will develop an audit/ inspection program plan for targeted MS4 facilities. Inspections will occur on a schedule per the Compliance Monitoring Schedule Ecology develops in Section 2G.	An MS4 audit program exists and is implemented as staff resources allow. In addition, MS4 facility inspections (e.g., city/county yards) occur on an as needed basis.
		4E	Ecology will implement the industrial stormwater general permit by providing technical assistance and enforcement.	Ongoing.
		4F	Ecology will prepare an annual Sanitary Sewer Overflow report card. The report	Report submitted to EPA May 5, 2018. SSO tracking is ongoing.

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			will include a list of SSO events, estimated volumes, and solutions. Ecology will submit the report by April 1 of each calendar year and cover the preceding calendar year. The report(s) will be emailed to Rob Grandinetti at Grandinetti.robert@epa.gov. Ecology may also fax the report to (509) 376-2396.	
5. GROUNDWATER AND UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL	Groundwater Base: EPA – Nick Peak Ecology – Chad Brown	5A	Washington Nitrate Prioritization Project: Ecology will update the statewide groundwater nitrate data set with more current data from Washington Department of Health (WDOH), United States Geological Survey (USGS), and Ecology, and will report on what would be needed to automate this process in conjunction with WDOH and USGS. Ecology will also explore how best to obtain and organize important hydrogeologic information for the state that currently exists as GIS layers and associated data and information with other agencies.	The statewide dataset update was completed in November 2016, as previously reported. The data automation process has been documented and a report will be produced. There is a proposed initiative to develop a hydrogeologic framework by the Washington Dept. of Natural Resources Geological Survey, Ecology, and the USGS. The Water Quality Program has actively participated in this effort.
	Surface Water: EPA – Michelle Tucker Ecology –	5B	Ecology and the EPA will continue to provide a single point of contact to work with each agency and other stakeholders on the Yakima groundwater issue and will work to make sure their internal programs are coordinated so agencies and stakeholders get a coordinated message. Ecology Water Quality Program will work to implement activities to address the pollutant sources in the lower Yakima. The Lower Yakima Valley Ground Water Management Area (LYV-GWMA) is functioning with Yakima County acting as lead agency. The GWMA continues work to identify and quantify nitrate sources and establish a long-term nitrate monitoring program. A final Groundwater Management Program is expected in 2017. Funding has been provided by the State Legislature and Ecology remains actively involved. The U.S. Geological Survey has completed an enhanced SPARROW (SPAtially Referenced Regressions on Watershed attributes) model and Ecology will use it in identifying and quantifying non-point nutrient sources and the role of nutrients in groundwater.	The GWMA process was extended through December 2018 to complete writing the program (Summer 2018) and finalize some early action items including sampling and analyzing both existing and purpose built wells throughout the GWMA by USGS. A near final draft of the proposed plan was provided to the advisory committee in June and the lead entity is incorporating committee member comments for the final document. Yakima County is finalizing a contract to install ~30m purpose built monitoring wells which will be added to the 159 existing wells being sampled by the USGS.
		5C	Ecology will protect safe drinking water through continued work with DOH, including incorporating the results of source water assessments of drinking water systems into education, technical assistance and enforcement efforts as resources allow.	Ecology continues to review Voluntary Stewardship Program plans, including those that include areas where drinking water wells have been impaired by nitrates. Ecology continued to participate in a technical panel called by WDOH to review on-site septic rules. WDOH announced their intent to revise these rules and Ecology is on the technical advisory team to develop this rule revision.

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		5D	Ecology will provide technical and educational services on local jurisdiction Critical Aquifer Recharge Area plans and ordinances related to the protection of groundwater depending on needs and as resources allow. Ecology will also provide technical consultation on statewide guidance for Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas.	<p>The VSP program is part of the Growth Management Act to protect Critical Areas from impacts due to agricultural activities. Some VSP Work Groups are using Washington Nitrate Priority Project data/Dept. of Health Drinking Water data as indicators, and we review work plans and provided comment to those draft VSPs that were submitted during the first half of 2018.</p> <p>Ecology consulted with the Dept. of Commerce Growth Management Services, and state regional planner associations on Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas Ecology began work to update the CARA guidance that has not been updated since 2005. Ecology staff gathered preliminary comments on needed revisions to the guidance. Formal comments will be gathered in September and this will inform the workplan for the revisions.</p>
		5E	Ecology and the EPA will coordinate on EPA-funded projects that have the potential to impact state groundwater resources.	Ecology is still waiting for the groundwater results of the NEP funded ARM project. USGS is completing an assessment of the groundwater data for this project.
	<p>Underground Injection Control</p> <p>EPA – Peter Contreras</p> <p>Ecology – Mary Shaleen-Hansen</p>	5F	<p>Ecology will protect drinking water and groundwater quality by implementing the Underground Injection Control (UIC) program and associated UIC Rule (WAC 173-218). Ecology will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the UIC rule program by completing outreach activities to better educate the public and private well owners on the rule program, such as developing guidance on well assessments, distributing brochures to local governments, and offering training as needed. Provide technical assistance to owners of private and publicly owned UIC wells. Submit reports to the EPA in a timely manner, and continue to work with the EPA to ensure the appropriate information is provided in a format that meets each agency's needs. Ecology will submit inventory, inspection, and closure information to EPA electronically. (2015 7520s forms I-IV PAMs SDW 7b and 8) 	<p>Ongoing. Reporting to EPA is on schedule</p> <p>Ecology completed revisions to the UIC guidance and included this information in the draft Eastern WA Stormwater Manual. This guidance will also be included in the draft Western Stormwater Manual that will go out for public review in July.</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If requested, Ecology will conduct joint UIC inspections with the EPA. If UIC wells are found to be out of compliance, Ecology and/or the EPA will take appropriate actions to correct the situation. Ecology will use EPA's CDX Network for biannual data transfers. Ecology will work with EPA to develop a written agreement documenting the process for transmitting data through the CDX as an official e-reporting agency. 	
6. SEDIMENTS	EPA – Erika Hoffman Ecology – Leonard Machut	6A	Ecology will provide biannual reports online and maintain the Ecology databases to identify the status of identified sediment cleanup sites within Washington State.	Ongoing.
		6B	Sediment Cleanup User's Manual (SCUM) II, Ecology's main guidance for state sediment management standards, is a living document that will be updated as necessary by Ecology.	Revised in December 2017, no significant changes currently needed.
		6C	Ecology sediment staff will provide ongoing support to water quality staff for the development of the next 303(d) Impaired Water Bodies list as related to sediment quality. This will include updating procedures in program policy to determine sediment impacted water bodies for 303(d) listing purposes based on Sediment Management Standards rule interpretation.	Public comment received January 2018; TCP is responding to comments and continuing to support WQP in updating 303(d) listings.
		6D	Ecology will continue to participate with the Bellingham Bay Pilot partners in implementing planned Bellingham Bay cleanup and restoration plan actions.	Ongoing.
		6E	Ecology will continue to implement the Lower Duwamish Waterway source control strategy.	Ongoing.
7. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	SRF: EPA – David Carcia, Ecology – Shelly McMurry Financial Assistance: EPA –	7A	<p>Ecology will manage the Washington State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund (SRF) program per Chapter 173-98 WAC, Uses and Limitations of the Washington State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund. Ecology will monitor and evaluate key management and policy aspects of the SRF program, including the interest rate structure, adequate program management and administration, water quality outcomes and benefits reporting, and perpetuity.</p> <p>Assuming that timely appropriations are made by Congress and the State, Ecology will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue the SRF Draft List and Intended Use Plan for each state fiscal year on, or before, March 31 of each calendar year. Apply for the SRF Capitalization Grant by May 31 of each calendar year. Issue the SRF Final List and Intended Use Plan for each state fiscal year 	<p>The SFY18 Final List and Intended Use Plan was delayed due to Washington State Legislature not passing a capital budget. The final was published in February 2018 rather than the usual July 2017. Our SFY19 Final List and Intended Use Plan was published May 2018.</p> <p>Ecology applied for the FFY18 Capitalization grant in May 2018.</p> <p>Financial Managers are keeping project information</p>

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	Ecology – Jeff Nejedly		<p>on, or before, July 1 of each calendar year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the SRF data through the National Information Management System (NIMS). • Submit SRF Annual Reports to EPA by September 30 of each calendar year. • Report project information and environmental outcomes for each SRF funded project through EPA’s CWSRF Benefits Reporting System (CBR). • Review and update if necessary, the SRF Operating Agreement between EPA and Ecology every two years. 	<p>and environmental outcomes for each SRF funded projects updated in CBR.</p> <p>Ecology sent a draft revised Operating Agreement to EPA for review and comment in January 2018.</p>
		7B	During the 2017-19 biennium, Ecology staff time and resources needed for administration and oversight of the SRF program will be funded through the Administration Charge Account. Ecology will bank the four percent administrative set aside and document in our Intended Use Plan, allowing future use if necessary.	We fund all SRF staff salaries and benefits out of Ecology’s Administrative Charge Account (564). To fund a new loan tracking system replacement project, IRMS, Ecology requested a portion of the four percent set-aside from the FFY16 and FFY17 capitalization grants.
		7C	Ecology and the EPA will review and consider updating the CWSRF Operating Agreement, last updated in 2008. As part of the Operating Agreement, Ecology and the EPA will work toward agreement on Ecology’s designation as the EPA’s non-Federal Representative for informal ESA consultation for revolving fund financed treatment works projects.	During our SFY17 Performance Review onsite meeting, we discussed Ecology being the non-Federal representative for informal ESA consultation. Ecology has the staff capacity now and proposed this change in roles and responsibilities in the draft Operating Agreement. Ecology provided a draft of an updated Operating Agreement to EPA in January 2018. EPA said they would have their comments and timeline for revision to Ecology by mid September.
		7D	Ecology will continue to address expeditious use of federal funds and prevent any issues with unliquidated obligations by continuing to make payments on all new loan projects from the federal grant funds, oldest first, with a goal of having only the most recent federal grant award open by the end of the 2017-19 biennium.	Ecology continues to disburse state match, federal grant funds first and then repayment money, to draw and spend our capitalization grants in a timely and expeditious manner. We currently have FFY16 and FFY17 cap grants with remaining balances. The remaining balances are the 4 percent administration to pay for IRMS, the new loan tracking system.
8. ADMINISTRATIVE	EPA – Michelle Wilcox	8A	Ecology will develop water quality performance measures and report these to EPA on a semi-annual basis by August 31 and February 28 of each year.	The semi-annual PPA status report is the primary vehicle for reporting to EPA. Measures on permit timeliness, inspections, DMR compliance, etc (state performance measures) are available upon request.

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	Ecology – Eli Levitt	8B	Ecology will provide a written status report on the commitments in this Agreement to EPA on a semi-annual basis by August 31 and February 28 of each year. Ecology will post this status report on their website.	This status update is the first of the grant period. Please direct any comments or questions to the listed and appropriate Ecology contact and copy Eli Levitt (eli.levitt@ecy.wa.gov).
		8C	Ecology and the EPA water quality managers will meet annually to discuss key water quality issues and progress in meeting the commitments in this Agreement. Ecology will organize and host the 2017 meeting and the EPA will organize and host the 2018 meeting.	Ecology proposed October 16 as a meeting date via video conference and/or in person.
		8D	The EPA will participate in Water Quality Program management meetings when necessary to coordinate an effective water quality program. The EPA will provide Ecology with relevant information on implementing water quality regulatory programs including water quality protection programs of other states to assist Ecology. The EPA will notify Ecology of any federal law, regulatory change, or policy interpretation that would necessitate a change in State law to maintain a delegated program. Ecology will work with the EPA to develop appropriate responses to such notifications.	EPA item.